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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
OFFICE OF CURRENT INTELLIGENCE  
5 March 1955

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director (Intelligence)  
SUBJECT: Offshore Island Situation

CDED

General

Peiping Radio on 4 March took note of the principal points made by Secretary of State Dulles in his remarks at Taipei the previous day. Peiping on 5 March broadcasts a commentary denouncing Mr. Dulles' statements as "shopworn and futile." The commentary observes that "the U.S. intention is to attack China's mainland" in the event of a military buildup, and that "the U.S. seeks to expand its aggression to the Quemoy and Matsu islands." Peiping concludes by reaffirming that it "must liberate Taiwan," and that "the U.S. must change its aggressive policy, otherwise it cannot escape responsibility for the consequences."

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Matsus

The Associated Press reports from Taipei that there is speculation that the Nationalists may be abandoning "some or all" islands of the Matsu group.

American military sources in Taipei have reported the Nationalists to be moving a full-strength infantry division into the Matsus to bolster the garrison there. However, it is possible that the Nationalists have made plans to evacuate some of the minor islands in the Matsu area which would be most difficult to defend.

Quemoys

PACOM Review Completed

Negative.

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HUNTINGTON D. SHELDON  
Assistant Director,  
Current Intelligence

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